

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BEIRUT 09009 271625Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-03  
CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 /060 W  
-----271727Z 001211 /54

R 271601Z DEC 76  
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2606  
INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 9009

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, LE, IS  
SUBJECT: GOL INTEREST IN ISRAELI ATTITUDE TOWARDS LITANI RIVER  
IRRIGATION

1. DURING MY CALL ON FONMIN BOUTROS DEC 27 HE SAID THAT GOL IS CONSIDERING CONSTRUCTING OFF-TAKE IRRIGATION CANALS OF LITANI RIVER PROJECT FOR IRRIGATION IN SOUTH LEBANON. (COMMENT: AS DEPT AWARE, CONSTRUCTION OF CANALS HAS BEEN POSTPONED FOR AT LEAST PAST 12 YEARS DUE TO TYPICAL INTERNAL LEBANESE QUARRELS OVER WHERE WATER WOULD BE ALLOCATED. END COMMENT.) BOUTROS ASKED IF I THOUGHT THERE WOULD BE ANY PROBLEM WITH ISRAEL, SHOULD GOL BEGIN TO IMPLEMENT THESE PLANS. HE HAD VAGUE RECOLLECTION THAT ISRAEL MIGHT OBJECT AND SAID THAT HE WAS GOING TO RESEARCH OLD FILES ON THE SUBJECT HIMSELF. I TOLD HIM THAT, TO MY KNOWLEDGE, THERE NO PROBLEM AS THE LITANI FLOWED SOLELY IN LEBANESE TERRITORY.

2. ACTION REQUESTED: IF SUCH CONSTRUCTION DOES RAISE LEGAL PROBLEMS WITH ISRAELIS, PLEASE LET US KNOW BUT SUGGEST MATTER NOT BE DISCUSSED WITH THE ISRAELIS AT THIS TIME. GOL IS OBVIOUSLY LOOKING FOR MEANS OF IMPROVING CONDITIONS IN SOUTH LEBANON. IT WOULD BE A FEATHER IN THE CABINET'S HAT IF THEY WERE ABLE TO PUSH THIS SECTION OF THE LITANI PROJECT OFF  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BEIRUT 09009 271625Z

DEAD CENTER.  
HOUGHTON

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CONSTRUCTION, IRRIGATION PIPES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 27 DEC 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** greeneet  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976BEIRUT09009  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760473-0040  
**From:** BEIRUT  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19761211/aaaaajcm.tel  
**Line Count:** 57  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** greeneet  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 16 JUN 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <16 JUN 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <08 OCT 2004 by greeneet>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** GOL INTEREST IN ISRAELI ATTITUDE TOWARDS LITANI RIVER IRRIGATION  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PINT, LE, IS  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006